details to know whether they will meet the requirements of both parties. We shall have ample time for that in committee. Although we have a very learned Attorney General representing the Government, and many able lawyers in this colony, and have been dealing with bills of sale for several years, I am afraid the legal fraternity have not given that attention in the past to the principles involved in bills of sale that the public might have expected. However, the Attorney General has given more attention to this matter than has been given in the past, and I trust that the result of our labors in connection with this Bill will meet the requirements both of mortgagors and mortgagees.

MR. SOLOMON: I endorse the hon. member's remarks, for this Bill is no doubt one of the most important measures touching commercial matters. There is one point I would like to call attention to: that is that I have known a bill of sale executed, and after a person has supplied a quantity of goods on one day they have been seized and taken on the next day under that bill of sale. I think that anything of this kind should be prevented, and that a certain time should be allowed after the execution of a bill of sale, and before a seizure can be made. I trust the Attorney General will introduce a provision to prevent that practice.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 12·3, midnight.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 22nd December, 1892.

Police Act Amendment Bill: third reading—Scab Act Amendment Bill: second reading: committee—West Australian Trustee, Executor, and Agency Company (Limited) Bill: second reading; committee—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. G. Shenton) took the chair at 7·30 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

POLICE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

This Bill was read a third time, and *passed.*

SCAB ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The object of this Bill is in the first place to make more clear the term "run." In the original Act this term is used, but in a recent case which came before the Supreme Court the counsel concerned were very doubtful as to the definition of the word. Therefore, in order to make the matter more clear, it is provided by clause 1 that "the words 'in the "absence of a quarantine boundary de-"fined by an inspector in his declaration' "occurring in the interpretation of the "term 'run' in the third section of 'The "Scab Act, 1891,' hereinafter called the "principal Act, are hereby repealed." The Bill also provides that no sheep are to be introduced into any district north of the Victoria Scab District from or through an infected district. I am happy to say that, from information I have received from the Inspector of Sheep, the disease known as scab has been brought under control, and that there have been no recent cases of scab. The Government feel, and the importance of it has been strongly represented to them, that any sheep coming from the North through an infected district might bring about the absolute ruin of a number of sheep-owners; and it has, therefore, been provided by this Bill that "After the 1st day of March, 1893, all "sheep before passing out of an infected "district into any clean district shall be "legibly branded by the owner with the "letter V at least three inches in length, "and shall be kept so branded by him and "every other owner for the space of six "calendar months from the time such

"sheep leave the said infected district. "And every owner neglecting the provi- "sions of this section shall be deemed "guilty of an offence." Altogether this Bill is brought in to prevent this direful disease breaking out in the northern portions of the colony. I now move the second reading.

Question—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3.—"Sheep before passing out of an infected into a clean district shall be branded with the letter V:"

THE HON. J. MORRISON moved, That the words "in addition to the registered station brand" be inserted after the words "length" and "and" in the fourth line of the clause. One reason for moving this amendment was that many drovers on the road down boxed the sheep. He knew an instance where this had occurred. One man brought 46 less than his tally, and the other 43 more than his number. On making inquiries he found that the sheep had travelled all together, and when they got to Wanneroo they were split up and drafted as well as the men could do it. At the present time sheep were all branded pretty much alike. Some put bottle brands on, and this was a most ridiculous way of going to work, because so many used the same brand, but if the registered station brand were used a deal of difficulty would be got over.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said he understood the object of the amendment was that when drovers boxed the sheep the owners could, when they came to divide them, get their own sheep. This might be a very proper provision, but it was something quite foreign to scab, and therefore quite foreign to this Bill. The hon. member used the words "registered station brand," but he did not know any legal title such as that. There was a provision for registering brands, but he did not know of any in connection with registered station brands. Apart from this, if flock owners wished to protect themselves they could easily brand their sheep in any way they pleased without any law at all being passed.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton) said it had struck him whether this amendment was relevant to the Bill. The Bill dealt with scab and not with the loss of sheep.

THE HON. J. MORRISON thought it had a great deal to do with the Bill, because they knew that a great deal of scab was spread by lost sheep, and when found it was impossible to tell who the owners were.

THE HON. E. T. HOOLEY said he did not think they need legislate to compel owners to brand. He could quite see the point his hon. friend had in view, but he did not see how it could be introduced into this Bill.

Amendment—put and negatived.

Clause agreed to.

The remaining clause was passed and the Bill reported.

WEST AUSTRALIAN TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR AND AGENCY COMPANY (LIMITED) BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): This, Mr. President, is a private Bill. It has been passed by the Legislative Assembly, and its object is to incorporate the West Australian Trustee, Executor, and Agency Company, Limited. The Company is established "with the "object, among other purposes, of afford- "ing persons the opportunity of obtain- "ing the services of a permanent corpor- "ation for the performance of the duties "of such offices and thus to remove much "of the uncertainty and insecurity which "attend the appointment of private in- "dividuals." I have no doubt that the experience of hon. members will tell them that in some cases there is great difficulty in obtaining suitable trustees, executors, guardians, and persons to fill other like offices. In other places, notably in the other colonies, many of such companies have been formed, and have been found to work uncommonly well. They take upon themselves all the duties appertaining to the offices of executors and trustees for a reasonable remuneration. By the provisions of this Bill, when the Company pays a certain sum into the Treasury to be held to answer the liabilities of the Company, the Company will be enabled to take out letters of administration without the usual bond which must be given where a private individual

does it. If a private person takes out letters of administration he has to find two sureties for double the amount of the personalty, and in practice it is difficult to find persons who will so bind themselves. In Victoria I think there are a dozen of such companies carrying on business, and in South Australia and New South Wales there are also a number of these companies. This Bill, which I drew, is prepared from the Victorian Acts, of which it is an almost *verbatim* copy, with alterations to suit the circumstances of this colony. There are no material alterations, with this exception: In Victoria it is provided that so soon as a certain deposit is made with the Treasurer the Company can perform the duties of administrator, etc., without entering into a bond, but by this Bill it is provided as follows:—"In all cases in "which probate or letters of adminis- "tration shall be granted to the Com- "pany all the capital both paid and un- "paid and all other assets of the Com- "pany shall be liable for the proper "administration of the estate committed "to the Company. The Company shall "before obtaining any grant of probate "of any will or letters of administration "possess a paid-up capital of not less "than six thousand pounds of which "paid-up capital five thousand pounds "shall be deposited with the Treasurer "or invested in the purchase of deben- "tures or inscribed stock of the public "funds of the colony or in the purchase "of the debentures or bonds of any "Municipality in the colony, as the "directors of the Company may select "in the name of the Treasurer in trust "for the Company, but transferable only "upon the joint consent of the Treasurer "and the Company, or upon the order of "the court or a judge. When and so "long as the said sum of five thousand "pounds or such other sums as may "hereinafter be prescribed, and required "by law shall remain invested as afore- "said or deposited with the Treasurer "the Court may grant letters of adminis- "tration to the Company without the "bond required by law when adminis- "tration is applied for by private persons "provided that the amount of capital to "be paid up and the sum to be deposited "or invested as aforesaid may be here- "after increased as Parliament by any Act "to be hereafter passed may prescribe." With the exception of that provision the Bill is almost a *fac simile* of those in the other colonies. Not only do such companies exist in the other Australian colonies, but they are to be found in South Africa and in other British colonies. I do not know whether such a company exists in the mother country, although we do know that there is a trustee and executor company, which became the trustees for the Midland Railway Company's debenture holders. This Bill will, I think, enable the Company to do good service in this colony, and I have no doubt, from the nature of the business it will do, it will be a complete success. I now move the second reading.

Question—put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I see by the Standing Orders that as soon as the second reading of a Bill is agreed to the President shall put the question that the House resolve itself into committee.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. G. Shenton): I do that after progress has been reported, but not in the first instance.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Standing Order 246 says: After the second reading, unless it be moved, "That the Bill be referred to a select committee," the President shall put the question, "That I do now leave the chair, and the Council resolve itself into a committee of the whole for the consideration of this Bill."

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. G. Shenton): Although that rule exists, the practice has been found to be rather inconvenient, and during the last two sessions the President, in the first instance, has always been moved out of the chair.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Then I move that you do leave the chair, for the purpose of considering this Bill in committee.

Question—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE:

Clauses 1 to 7 passed.

Clause 8.—"Assets of Company to be liable for proper administration of estates and no bond to administer to be required when paid-up capital is £6,000 of which £5,000 is invested in Government securities:"

THE HON. J. MORRISON said he thought it would be as well to state the amount of interest the Government should pay on the deposit.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that if the Company deposited the money an arrangement would, of course, be come to as to its investment; but the Company could invest itself. He intended to ask for the recommittal of the Bill, in order to add some words as to the manner in which the interest shall be paid, and also as to extending the modes of investing, because the Company could not get debentures or inscribed stock of this colony here. He intended to ask that the Company should be able to deposit securities of land.

Clause agreed to.

The remaining clauses were passed, and the Bill reported.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 8·40. o'clock p.m., adjourned until Thursday, 5th January, 1893, at 8 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 22nd December, 1892.

Private firm carrying on business on Crown Land at Geraldton—Amendment of Dog Act (Reward for Destruction of Wild Dogs) — Police Act, 1892, Amendment Bill: Message from Legislative Council —Jury Exemption Bill: Legislative Council's Amendment — Swan River (Fremantle) Harbor Works and Tramway Bill: in committee—Bills of Sales Act Further Amendment Bill: in committee— Estimates, 1893: further considered in committee —Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 7.30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

PRIVATE FIRM CARRYING ON BUSINESS ON CROWN LANDS AT GERALDTON.

MR. TRAYLEN, in accordance with notice, asked the Commissioner of Railways whether a private firm was carrying on business in premises on Crown land near the Geraldton Jetty, which premises were formerly used by Mr Keane? What rent was paid for the same? And whether the said firm contributed to the revenue of the Municipality of Geraldton in respect of the said premises?

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. H. W. Venn) replied: A private firm does occupy a building belonging to Mr. Keane, erected by him on railway land some years since. The Municipality drew attention to the fact that no rates were paid for the building, and a notice to quit was sent to the firm in consequence. The firm has since, however, made some arrangements with the Municipality as to rates. The premises will shortly be vacated.

REWARD FOR DESTRUCTION OF WILD DOGS.

MR. PIESSE: I rise to move, "That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that provision should be made, by an amendment of the Dog Act, for payment of the reward for the destruction of wild dogs, on production of the scalp and ears, in addition to the tail; and also that a declaration should be made by the person producing the same." I think it will be admitted on all sides that the introduction of clause 19 into the Dog Act of 1883 has been productive of much good throughout the country districts. The payment of the reward under that clause, for the destruction of native dogs, has to a certain extent brought about the desired result, although it is much to be regretted that in many instances unprincipled persons have defrauded the revenue by bringing to justices spurious dog tails that have been ingeniously manufactured from the skin of the animal. This has come under my notice personally; I have also heard it from several justices that they have frequently had these spurious tails brought to them. As there is a possibility of justices being imposed upon, who have not such a thorough knowledge of the native dog as to enable them to distinguish a genuine tail from a spurious one, I think it is necessary that something should be done to prevent this deception; and the only way that I can see for doing it is to require the scalp and ears of the dog to be produced as well as the tail. It has been